

**DECLARATION**

As a below-named inventor, I(we) hereby declare that:

**TYPE OF DECLARATION**

This declaration is of the following type:

- ☒ original
- ☐ design
- ☐ supplemental
- ☐ national stage of PCT
- ☐ divisional
- ☐ continuation
- ☐ continuation-in-part (CIP)

**INVENTORSHIP DECLARATION**

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I verily believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (*if only one name is listed below*) or an original, first and joint inventor (*if plural names are listed below*) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

**A METHOD FOR CONTRACTING, LOADING OR CRIMPING SELF-EXPANDING AND BALLOON EXPANDABLE STENT DEVICES**

the specification of which:

- a) ☒ is being filed concurrently herewith
- b) ☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and assigned Serial No. \_\_\_\_\_
- c) ☐ was filed as PCT International Application No. \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_ and amended under PCT Article 19 on \_\_\_\_\_.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REVIEW OF PAPERS AND DUTY OF CANDOR**

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations §1.56 including information occurring between the filing date of any prior application of which the present application is a continuation-in-part.

- ☐ In compliance with this duty there is attached an Information Disclosure Statement.  
37 CFR 1.97.

**PRIORITY CLAIM**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119(a)-(d), of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international applications(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international applications(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me having the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

- a) ☒ no such applications have been filed.  
b) ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (day, month, year)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 37 USC 119
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
			<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35 United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application identified below.

- a) ☒ no such applications have been filed.  
b) ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

U.S. APPLICATIONS	
SERIAL NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE
1.	
2.	

#### CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF EARLIER U.S./PCT APPLICATIONS(S) UNDER 35 U.S.C. §120

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States applications(s) or PCT international applications(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior applications(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior applications(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

- a) ☒ no such applications have been filed.  
b) ☐ such applications have been filed as follows:

U.S. APPLICATIONS	
SERIAL NUMBER	U.S. FILING DATE
1.	
2.	
PCT APPLICATIONS DESIGNATING THE U.S.	
PCT APPLICATION NO.	PCT FILING DATE
3.	

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Telephone calls and correspondence should be directed to: Jonathan Grad, at Customer No. 490, Telephone: (612) 563-3000. Facsimile: (612) 563-3001.

**First Inventor**

Full name.

Michael Austin

Inventor's signature

*Michael Austin*

Date:

4<sup>th</sup> AUG. 1999

Citizenship:

Ireland

Post office Address.

Gardenfield, Tuam  
Co. Galway, Ireland

Residence.

(If different than above)

**Second Inventor**

Full name

Inventor's signature

Date

Citizenship

Post office Address

Residence

(If different than above)